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Customer No.: 31561  
Application No.: 10/708,372  
Docket No.: 12680-US-PA

Entered w/RCE

dtd. 7/18/06

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: WARREN, MATTHEW, E

Group Art Unit: 2815

DMC  
7/20/06

In re PATENT APPLICATION of  
Applicants : Erh-Kun Lai

Serial No. : 10/708,372

Filed : February 26, 2004

For : SHALLOW TRENCH  
ISOLATION AND METHOD OF  
FORMING THE SAME

AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 12680-US-PA

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required in  
connection with the filing of this paper to account No. 50-2620 (Order  
No.: 12680-US-PA)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop RCE  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Sir:

This preliminary amendment is filed together with the Request for Continued  
Examination (RCE). In response to the Advisory Action mailed on June 28, 2006, please  
enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.